

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Alan Eric Fischer, et al. : Examiner: Carolyn L. Smith
: :
Serial No.: 10/708,815 : Group Art Unit: 1631
: :
Filed: March 26, 2004 : Attorney Docket No.: 713629.242
: :
For: METHODS AND STRUCTURE FOR :
AUTOMATED ACTIVE :
PHARMACEUTICALS DEVELOPMENT : Customer No.: 27128
: :
: Confirmation No.: 2814
Last Office Action: September 29, 2006 :
:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement, dated September 29, 2006, and within the second month for responding thereto and upon payment of the appropriate extension fee, Applicants hereby elects for prosecution at this time the Group I claims, namely, claims 1-17, drawn to a method for chemical compound development project management. The election of Group I claims is made with traverse, without prejudice to the elected Group I claims, and without prejudice to the non-elected Group II and III claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested. The Applicant contends that Group I, II and III are closely related and have a common utility. Specifically, they all have a common utility of managing chemical compound

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development processes. The Applicant further contends that the Groups do not pose a serious burden for the examiner by requiring separate searches.

Because Applicant may wish to pursue claims of the non-elected Groups at a later date by Divisional Application, if necessary, it is requested that these claims, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142, be permitted to remain in the application, but withdrawn from examination.

This response does not present any new matter. Accordingly, as all requirements of the Action have been complied with, an action on the merits and a Notice of Allowance are hereby respectfully requested.

If any issue regarding this election or the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present election, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Date: Nov 29, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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